

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/691,368

Examiner

Omar Flores-Sánchez

Applicant(s)

MAREK ET AL.

Art Unit

3724

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 3/21/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 27-31.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 June 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claim is allowable because the prior art fails to teach a stage having a layer of electrostatic dissipative material covering an upper surface of the stage and a plurality of channels wherein gas is pumped through it such that a glass panel with semiconductor circuitry floats above the layer of electrostatic dissipative material; locating pins removable secured to the stage for positioning the glass panel; a turntable supporting the stage for rotating the stage; a separating device with a handle and a slotted plate for separating the outer edge of the glass panel; and a force gauge for measuring the necessary amount of force to separate the outer edge as set forth in claim 27.

Cox et al. teaches a stage (36 or 138) having a plurality of channels (38 or 142), a gas/air (where air is mostly nitrogen) and a vacuum 146. However, Cox et al. fail to teach the layer of electrostatic dissipative material covering an upper surface of the stage; locating pins removable secured to the stage for positioning the glass panel; a turntable supporting the stage for rotating the stage; a separating device with a handle and a slotted plate for separating the outer edge of the glass panel; and a force gauge for measuring the necessary amount of force to separate the outer edge as set forth in claim 27.

Kolycheck teaches a layer of electrostatic dissipative material. However, Kolycheck fails to teach the layer of electrostatic dissipative material *covering* the upper surface of the stage and there is no motivation to combine Kolycheck with Cox et al. because the device of Cox et al. is for cutting elongate web of reinforced elastic material and for that reason there is no need to control static charge buildup by using the layer of electrostatic dissipative material.

Wilhite teaches locating pins removable secured to a table. However, Wilhite fail to teach the layer of electrostatic dissipative material covering an upper surface of the stage; the turntable supporting the stage for rotating the stage; the separating device with a handle and a slotted plate for separating the outer edge of the glass panel; and the force gauge for measuring the necessary amount of force to separate the outer edge as set forth in claim 27.

Turner teaches a turntable. The examiner's opinion is that Turner's turntable is not combinable with Cox et al. because Cox et al. use belts for removing the web out of cutting area, rather than rotate the workpiece at a desired position in the cutting area. Also, Turner fail to teach the layer of electrostatic dissipative material covering an upper surface of the stage; locating pins removable secured to the stage for positioning the glass panel; the separating device with a handle and a slotted plate for separating the outer edge of the glass panel; and the force gauge for measuring the necessary amount of force to separate the outer edge as set forth in claim 27.

Bareggi teaches a separating device having a handle 10, a slotted plate 20" having upper and lower panels, a recess (Fig. 1) and a force gauge (see Fig. 6 and col. 3, lines 48-61). However, Bareggi fails to teach the layer of electrostatic dissipative material covering an upper surface of the stage; locating pins removably secured to the stage for positioning the glass panel; and the turntable supporting the stage for rotating the stage as set forth in claim 27.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 3724

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Flores-Sánchez whose telephone number is 571-272-4507.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ofs
April 3, 2005



Allan N. Shoap
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700